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JUSTICE RITA B. GARMAN TO ADMINISTER OATH TO NEW ATTORNEYS

Supreme Court of Illinois Justice Rita B. Garman will preside and administer the attorney's oath when 17 new attorneys are admitted to practice in ceremonies in Springfield on Thursday, May 6.

The group is among 683 men and women who were certified as candidates and will be sworn in as Illinois attorneys at ceremonies in the state's five Supreme Court judicial districts.

The Springfield program in the Fourth Judicial District will begin at 10:30 a.m. in the Supreme Court Courtroom in the Illinois Supreme Court Building, located at Second and Capitol Streets in Springfield.

Justice Garman, the second woman to sit on the High Court, will welcome the members of the class, their families and friends.

Other guests of the Illinois Supreme Court will be: U.S. District Judge Larry Lessen from the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Central District of Illinois, Springfield; Circuit Judge Heidi Ladd from the Sixth Judicial Circuit in Urbana; and attorneys Charles H. Burch from Hardin and Diana Cherry from Springfield.

Judge Lessen will serve as keynote speaker for the ceremony. Attorney Howard W. Feldman from the Illinois State Bar Association Board of Governors, will also address the incoming class.

Mr. Burch will make the motion to admit the class. His son, Charles, is a member of the class.

Ms. Cherry will second the motion to admit the class, with Judge Ladd to respond to the second of the motion.

MORE

A reception will follow.

All of the candidates have passed the Illinois State Bar Examination and an ethics examination; and were certified by the Committee on Character and Fitness.

The new attorneys will bring the total number of licensed attorneys in Illinois to approximately 79,000.

Media coverage is invited.

The counties in the Fourth District of the Supreme Court are: Adams, Pike, Calhoun, Schuyler, Brown, Scott, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Morgan, Cass, Mason, Menard, Sangamon, Logan, DeWitt, Macon, Piatt, Moultrie, McLean, Woodford, Livingston, Ford, Champaign, Douglas, Coles, Cumberland, Clark, Edgar and Vermilion.

Ceremonies in the other districts will be held in Chicago, Collinsville, Ottawa and Elgin.

For more information contact Joseph Tybor, press secretary to the Illinois Supreme Court, at 312/793-2323.